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DIRECTORATE OF OPERATIONS

Intelligence Information Cable

● ROUTINE

IN 110692

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WARNING NOTICE
SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED

3.5(c)

Classified by Recorded Reporting Officer. Exempt from General Declassification Schedule of E.O. 11652 Exemption Category 5B (1), (2). Impossible to Determine Date of Automatic Declassification.

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THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

SECRET

CITE 3.5(c)

DIST 26 NOVEMBER 1976

REPORT CLASS SECRET--WARNING NOTICE - SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED- 3.5(c)

3.5(c)

COUNTRY ARGENTINA

3.3(b)(1)

SUBJECT STATUS REPORT OF THE PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY 3.3(b)(1)

3.3(b)(1)

3.3(b)(1)

3.3(b)(1) SUMMARY: ACCORDING TO A REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY ARMY (ERP), THE ERP HAS DECIDED TO DECENTRALIZE AUTHORITY AND DELEGATE GREATER RESPONSIBILITY TO ITS REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AS A RESULT OF ACTIONS TAKEN AGAINST THE ERP BY ARGENTINE SECURITY FORCES. FOLLOWING 3.3(b)(1)

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SECRET
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THE DEATH OF ERP COMMANDER ROBERTO SANTUCHO, LEADERSHIP OF THE ORGANIZATION WAS ASSUMED BY A TRIUMVIRATE. DESPITE HEAVY LOSSES SUFFERED IN THE GOVERNMENT'S COUNTERSUBVERSIVE CAMPAIGN, THE ERP HAS NOT BEEN DESTROYED AND IS ATTEMPTING TO REASSERT ITSELF BOTH POLITICALLY AND MILITARILY. END SUMMARY.

1. IN EARLY NOVEMBER 1976 [redacted] 3.3(b)(1)
[redacted] REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY ARMY (ERP). FOLLOWING ARE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE REPORT.

2. AS A RESULT OF ACTIONS AGAINST THE ERP BY THE SECURITY FORCES, THE ERP DECIDED TO DECENTRALIZE AUTHORITY AND PASS GREATER RESPONSIBILITY TO THE REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. THE "GUEVARIST YOUTH," FOR EXAMPLE, WHICH IS THE ERP'S YOUTH GROUP, NO LONGER IS DIRECTED BY THE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP OF THE ERP BUT IS RESPONSIVE TO APPROPRIATE REGIONAL OFFICIALS.

3. AS OF EARLY NOVEMBER 1976 THE MAIN LEADERS OF THE ERP ARE ARNALDO JUAN C R E M E R, ALIAS "LUIS M A T T I N I," CHIEF OF LOGISTICS AND INTERNATIONAL MATTERS; JULIO ALFREDO O R O P E L, ALIAS "NEGRO JORGE,"

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COURDINATOR OF THE REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS; ENRIQUE HAROLDO GORRIARAN MERLO, ALIAS "CAPTAIN RICARDO," CHIEF OF MILITARY OPERATIONS; CARLOS HECTOR GERMAN, ALIAS "MAURO GOMEZ," LEADER OF THE ERP REMNANTS IN TUCUMAN; CARLOS ORZOCOA, ALIAS "DANIEL MARTIN" OR "EL VASCO," A REGIONAL OFFICER WHO WAS FORMERLY IN CHARGE OF THE ERP REPRESENTATION WITHIN THE REVOLUTIONARY COORDINATING JUNTA (JCR). ([redacted] COMMENT: 3.3(b)(1)

[redacted] IN LATE OCTOBER 3.3(b)(1)

1976, CAPTURED ERP MEMBERS TOLD THE AUTHORITIES THAT FOLLOWING THE DEATH ON 19 JULY 1976 OF MARIO ROBERTO SANTUCHO, THE ERP COMMANDER, THE LEADERSHIP OF THE ERP WAS TAKEN OVER NOT BY ONE INDIVIDUAL BUT BY A TRIUMVIRATE. THE CAPTIVES WERE UNABLE TO PROVIDE THE NAMES OF THOSE WHO COMPRISE THE TRIUMVIRATE BUT DID STATE THAT GORRIARAN MERLO, WHO WAS RUMORED TO REPLACE SANTUCHO, WAS NOT INCLUDED BECAUSE HE IS TOO AUTHORITATIVE. OTHER INFORMATION, HOWEVER, WHICH IS AVAILABLE TO THE ARGENTINE 3.3(b)(1)

[redacted] SUGGESTS

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THAT GORRIARAN MERLO MAY IN FACT BE THE MOST DOMINANT

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LEADER OF THE ERP, [redacted] 3.3(b)(1)

[redacted] THE POSSIBILITY THAT "LUIS MATTINI" IS THE TOP 3.3(b)(1)
OFFICIAL.)

4. THE ERP HAS ENGAGED IN RELATIVELY FEW TERRORIST ACTIONS IN RECENT WEEKS PRIMARILY BECAUSE OF THE LOSS OF TRAINED CADRES AS A RESULT OF COUNTERSUBVERSIVE OPERATIONS. ON A FAIRLY LIMITED SCALE, THE ERP HAS KILLED AND THREATENED BUSINESS EXECUTIVES, MAINLY THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN FIRING OR SUSPENDING WORKERS; CARRIED OUT ACTS OF SABOTAGE; KILLED MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY FORCES, IN PART TO OBTAIN WEAPONS; AND STOLEN FOOD AND OTHER SUPPLIES FOR DISTRIBUTION AMONG THE PEOPLE. POLITICALLY, THE ERP, AND ITS POLITICAL ARM, THE REVOLUTIONARY WORKERS PARTY (PRT), EVENTUALLY HOPE TO BE IN A POSITION TO LEAD THE OPPOSITION AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT, PARTICULARLY WITHIN THE LABOR SECTOR.

5. INTERNATIONALLY, THE ERP CONTINUES TO PARTICIPATE WITHIN THE JCR, A COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENT OF TERRORIST GROUPS OF THE SOUTHERN CONE COUNTRIES WITH CONNECTIONS IN EUROPE. THE ORGANIZATION FOR THE LIBERATION OF ARGENTINA

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(OLA), WHICH WAS TO BE COMPRISED OF VARIOUS ARGENTINE SUBVERSIVE GROUPS, INCLUDING THE ERP, HAS NOT PROGRESSED BEYOND THE TALKING STAGES, PRIMARILY BECAUSE OF THE RIVALRY BETWEEN THE ERP AND THE MONTONEROS OVER WHICH GROUP SHOULD LEAD OLA.

5. [redacted] DESPITE THE HEAVY LOSSES 3.3(b)(1)
SUFFERED BY THE ERP IN THE COUNTERSUBVERSIVE CAMPAIGN, THE ERP HAS NOT BEEN DESTROYED AND IS ATTEMPTING TO REORGANIZE AND REASSERT ITSELF BOTH POLITICALLY AND MILITARILY. ([redacted] COMMENT: ON 3 NOVEMBER 1976 THE ERP 3.3(b)(1)
MANAGED TO TAKE CONTROL OF A TELEVISION TRANSMITTING STATION IN FLORENCIO VARELA NEAR THE CAPITAL AND BROADCAST A SPEECH WHICH LASHED OUT AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT AND PROCLAIMED THAT THE ERP, MONTONEROS, RED BRIGADES AND OTHER ARGENTINE GUERRILLA ORGANIZATIONS WILL CONTINUE THE STRUGGLE TO TAKE POWER UNTIL FINAL VICTORY IS ACHIEVED. [redacted] 3.3(b)(1)

[redacted] 3.3(b)(1)

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[redacted] 3.3(b)(1)

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[redacted] 3.5(c)

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